

The Examiner has required restriction between:

Group I: Claims 1-4 and 17-20 drawn to a method for drying a thermoplastic norbornene resin and injection molding the resin to form a substrate for a magnetic recording medium, classified in class 34, subclass 406;  
or

Group II: Claims 5-16, drawing to a plastic substrate and a recording medium, classified in class 428, subclass 694SL.

In response to the Office Action mailed May 2, 2003, kindly consider the following remarks.

#### **REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1-20 are pending and are at issue.

The Examiner has required restriction among the claims of Group I, claims 1-4 and 17-20 directed to a method, and the claims of Group II, claims 5-16, directed to a plastic substrate and a recording medium.

The restriction requirement is respectfully traversed, and reconsideration is requested. Although the claims are classified in different subclasses by the Patent Office, a search of the prior art based upon the claims of Group I should develop the prior art relevant to the claims of Group II. Accordingly, examination of all of the pending claims of this application will not present an undue burden to the Examiner.

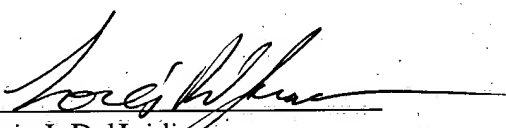
However in order to be fully responsive, Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-4 and 17-20 for examination.

It is believed that the claims are free of any ground for rejection over the prior art, and early passage to allowance is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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